

## Darkroom criteria

1. Require a solid ceiling not a “dropped tile” or acoustical tile ceiling. Dust can drop from these types of ceilings. Ceiling tiles have holes that can admit light from crawl spaces above.
2. Do not put open shelving above the counter. Stored items as well as the shelves will collect dust and spread dust when items are moved.
3. Avoid putting the room vent above the counter or feed tray if at all possible. Schedule frequent vent cleaning. Ensure no light is coming from the vent.
4. Safelights need to be a minimum of 4 feet from the work counter. A frosted bulb of no more than 15 watts is permitted at 4 feet. Ensure that you have the correct safelight filter for the film you are using. Just because it is red does not mean that it is safe.
5. Walls and counter tops do not have to be black or dark. Light walls will help reflect the safelighting making it easier to see.
6. Do not use fluorescent lighting. The afterglow from some bulbs is enough to fog x-ray film.
7. Make sure that no light is coming through the door edges, around the processor or around the passboxes.
8. Never store film on the floor.
9. The processor dryer should be vented to the outside. This not only reduces the chemical smell in the room, but also diverts the fumes and humidity that can damage parts inside the processor or cause artifacts.